

There's Work to be Done!

By Lisa Van Houten



Unfortunately, the adage “cheaters never prosper” isn’t true when it comes to elections.

The Left is desperate to ensure that Donald Trump does not return to the White House. We’re very familiar with some of the machinations they’re engaged in to achieve that.

1. Use lawfare to bankrupt and/or imprison the former president with baseless suits filed in Democrat districts with corrupt district attorneys, crooked judges, and biased jury pools; 2. Unconstitutionally attempt to keep Trump off the ballot in numerous states; 3. Collude with the mainstream media to constantly malign, slander, and outright lie; 4. Engage in election interference and fraud, while also seeking to undermine election integrity laws and voter I.D. requirements.

However, the Left’s plans to influence elections began long before Donald Trump came down the golden escalator. In 2006, billionaire George Soros, known for using his massive wealth to push Marxist policies, began efforts to elect leftist Democrats as secretaries of state nationwide. **Whether a state has fair elections often hinges on one person – the secretary of state.** One of those Soros-funded secretaries of state is Michigan’s Jocelyn Benson.

In 2020 Secretary of State Benson sent out automatic voter registration forms to all, supposedly eligible, Michigan citizens -

padding the voter rolls with 114,000 additional names right before the election. Because these forms were automatically sent to all mailboxes, it increased the likelihood that many of these forms could be used for fraudulent registrations. For example, in East Lansing alone, 1,936 ineligible people voted during the 2020 election, and the city’s voter rolls are 36% inaccurate as reported by a study from Pure Integrity Michigan Elections. And according to statistics from Public Interest Legal Foundation, in 2020 Detroit had 2,503 dead people and 4,788 duplicate registrations on its voter rolls. Overall, Detroit had 479,267 voting-age adults, but had 511,786 registered voters! Considering that in 2016, Donald Trump won Michigan by less than 11,000 votes, you can see how easy it would be to flip an election with fraudulent votes.

However, Democrat secretaries of state fight tooth and nail to keep from cleaning up their states’ rolls. In Illinois, voter records show that 11 counties “removed zero voter registrations” and 12 others removed 15 or fewer from November 2020 to November 2022. No one died in those 11 counties? Yet, these 23 jurisdictions reported 980,089 new voter registrations, but only 100 individuals were removed from the voter rolls during those two years.

In my home state of Michigan, Secretary of State Benson has been sued multiple times

for refusing to clean up Michigan’s voter rolls, yet she has refused to do so – even though Section 8 of the National Voter Registration Act requires states to maintain accurate voter rolls and to remove ineligible voters in the instance of death or address change.

Just recently, the Republican National Committee filed a federal lawsuit again demanding that Benson purge the voter rolls of ineligible voters. In comparing the voter rolls to the recent U.S. Census data, **53 of Michigan’s 83 counties have more registered voters than voting-age citizens.** Twenty-three other counties also have suspiciously high voter registration rates of 90% or more – much higher than the national average.

The 53 Michigan counties with registration rates at or above 100% of the adult population include: Alcona (112%), Allegan (104%), Alpena (101%), Antrim (111%), Arenac (104%), Barry (102%), Benzie (108%), Berrien (102%), Calhoun (101%), Cass (101%), Charlevoix (105%), Cheboygan (104%), Crawford (110%), Delta (104%), Dickinson (100%), Emmet (104%), Genesee (104%), Gladwin (103%), Gogebic (101%), Grand Traverse (101%), Huron (100%), Iosco (104%), Iron (106%), Kalkaska (115%), Kent (100%), Keweenaw (114%), Lapeer (102%), Leelanau (108%),

[Continued on Page 4]

Personal Note from the President



One of our early board members (now with the Lord) was my former pastor, the Rev. Jim Stevens, who stated in those early days of the late '80s – “Your ministry is a living organism not an organization.” Lisa and I have never forgotten that.

I believe the ADA being an organism, not an organization, enables us to be more flexible. We have been able to take on various issues without giving up on our basic mission of the call for holy living to the Glory of God and a concern for the impact of pornography on individuals, the family and society.

Our early calling was made clear to me in 1988 when an area mother sent me a letter with an attached photo. She wrote encouraging me to leave my teaching position and go full-time into fighting pornography. The photo showed her little son who had just begun walking. Sitting next to her little boy was her husband’s “friend.” In the letter she writes that she was always nervous when the friend came around as he and her husband looked at *Playboy* magazines and laughed back and forth. She wrote, ... *within a year after the picture was taken, he sexually molested my son ..., his older brother and his baby brother. This was all done very discreetly of course. Within a year he sexually molested his 7 ½ month old baby and she died of sexual infections and trauma. ... Mr. Johnson, you have a very important job to do. We have to stop this poison that is running rampant in our country and turning young boys into sadistic criminals. I will pray for you Mr. Johnson that God will give you wisdom. These little people need you. In Christ’s love ...*

On another occasion, I was showing Dr. James Dobson’s movie entitled “The Winnable War,” a 60-minute movie I showed

around the state in the 1980s. Ultimately, I showed it to upwards of 125 churches.

It was a Wednesday night service in Jackson, MI. I was still teaching and was correcting papers in the foyer. A young lady about 15 or 16, came out of the auditorium and said “I don’t like that movie.” I asked why. As we talked, she related that her dad watched pornography and acted out on her.

Because of these encounters and others, I began to speak out against pornography and called for boycotts of local stores selling or renting pornography. I became aware of a national group called the National Federation for Decency, later named the American Family Association. Soon after, I was asked to be AFA’s first named state director - serving with them between 1987-1999. Though we changed our name and separated in 1999, our mission largely still aligned with AFA and our burden and heart cry was always very similar. We worked to promote a Biblical ethic of decency in the American culture. “It wasn’t so much a battle against dirty words and dirty pictures” as AFA’s founder Don Wildmon would say, “but a battle for the hearts and souls of America.”

These were the early years, and things have changed somewhat. For one thing, an important part of our backbone is gone. I am referring to the passing of the “Greatest Generation” and their steadfast ways of letter writing, calling, volunteering, and PRAYING. But God is still on the throne!

Devotionally, I am now reading through the book of Judges. Quoting from the introduction of Judges out of the Reformation Heritage Study Bible, “*Man’s hopeless condition is highlighted by the failure of one generation being repeated by the next generation (2:10). The apostasy of God’s people was swift and its idolatry spread through the nation like a disease. With each cycle of apostasy the nation plummeted to greater depths. Israel became incorrigible in their pursuit of evil: ‘every man did that which was right in his own eyes’ (17:6; 18:1; 19:1; 21:25). The message of Judges is clear. When sin is not thoroughly slain it will rise up to trouble us, but when sin is confessed and mercy is sought God will rise*

up to save us. ... Through this history of deliverances God was preparing His people to expect the Son of God to come as the Savior of the world. Every deliverer raised the anticipation for the ideal Deliverer who would come in the fullness of time.”

It seems we are living in times like the times of the Judges. But, because of Christ, we are also living for such a time as this.

Last month I wrote of skipping out of the only quarterly board meeting I have ever missed to go to a VOTER SUMMIT in Sturgis, MI. The immediate sense that I was to be there compelled me and Jan to attend the five-hour conference. With prayerfulness and a sustained sense that we were to engage, we have turned partial attention to the massive concern of voter fraud – [note Lisa’s front-page article](#).

And so, the ADA organism has been stepping into this complex election process, which is so foundational to maintaining our God-given rights which we have enjoyed in these United States. Our years of warning, picketing, boycotting, speaking out, praying, engaging was done under, I believe, the calling of God to warn of the perils – personal and societal - that pornography entails. But those days are long gone and our worse fears have been realized. I remember a discussion with Alan Sears (while on our way to a statewide legislative hearing against pornography back in the late ‘80s) where Alan, former staff director of the Attorney General’s Commission on Pornography, stated to me personally his fear that if we didn’t win the fight against pornography, we would be as many other third world countries in their godless, rudderless condition. (my paraphrase).

Here we are with an evident banana republic election process dictating our future. **Should we not all do what we can?**

Contact us as God leads you. Let’s work together while we yet have time.

TikTok Timebomb - but who's lighting the fuse?

By Steve Huston



With each tic-toc of the clock, the nefarious weaponization of Beijing's Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) TikTok becomes more apparent. To the uninformed, this app seems bent on the frivolity of silliness, fun, and amazing video functions. But those of us who have kept our antennae up and have listened to those who desire to protect Americans and the American political machinery, recognize TikTok for the unrestricted warfare weapon that it is. The fact that the CCP doesn't allow its own citizens to use TikTok should be warning enough.

TikTok's data collection, dangerous online challenges which have resulted in numerous injury/deaths, and mental health risks to its users is well-traveled ground. It's use as a hyper-effective propaganda tool cannot be questioned in light of TikTok urging its users to contact Congress, after the House passed a bill which could lead to its banning, and masses of children and teens fell in line. Minors called Congress asking, "What's a congressman? What's Congress?" while thousands of teenagers called their legislators saying that "they would kill themselves" or "commit suicide if Congress made ByteDance sell TikTok."

It's no wonder that Beijing's app has been likened to "digital crack cocaine" and "digital fentanyl." But what many are not aware of a *Present Danger China* webinar hosted by Frank Gaffney revealed. One of the presenters, Connie Elliott, shared that "*these systems optimize on the very basic parts of our neurotransmitter psychology, like they understand our dopamine psychology for addiction, they understand our oxytocin psychology for attachment, and they understand our adrenaline psychology for our understanding of threat arousal, how we determine what frightens us and what makes us angry...*"

Later, she continues, "So, we're in a Brave

New World. We're in a world where the terrain being fought for is not physical. We're not fighting for stuff. Governments and corporations, large entities are fighting for control of the terrain behind our eyeballs. In between our ears. They're fighting for our cognition. They're fighting for our attention. They're fighting to make us perform actions which are favorable to them."

Several times we heard that enormous amounts of data have been collected on each American and that "*we have no protection for our digital selves from this kind of information harvesting and manipulation. And this can be used to track us down to very fine detail.*" PresentDangerChina.org's "*TikTok: Xi's Not-so-Secret Weapon: How Do We Disarm It?*" has a lot of important information. I highly recommend it.

Who's lighting the fuse on the "TikTok ban" timebomb? Only the Lord knows, but let's be thinkers.

On March 13, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the "Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act" by a vote of 352-64 (50 Democrats and 15 Republicans – mostly strong conservatives – opposing). Although this bill has been sold to the American republic as "The TikTok ban," this bill is not specifically about TikTok. It's much wider and permits more than is likely wise, but because we've heard of the vast dangers of TikTok regarding our national security, data collection on our citizens, and the inherent dangers to our children, many hail this bill as a salvatory strike for our children, our security, and America as a whole – putting a stop to this extremely useful propaganda tool and removing this unrestricted warfare weapon from the CCPs extensive armory. Although this bill has "bipartisan support," in today's political scene "bipartisan support" generally means the fix is in on something. Not to mention that often when we read the title of the bill, we can assume it does the exact opposite of what it says.

Add to that, Biden says, "If they pass it, I'll sign it." There's a real question to his sincerity; President Biden's re-election campaign joined TikTok last month, even as the

app is banned on government devices due to national security concerns. Rep. Ralph Norman (R-S.C.) suggested that the Biden administration isn't really serious about passing the TikTok bill as it's made its way through Congress. Speaking to The Epoch Times' sister media outlet NTD, "The Biden administration says one thing and does another. You don't open up an account of anything that you say you want to abolish."

There's good reason for concern; whoever is in control today may not be in control tomorrow. Lately, the one in control has been the definer of terms. Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY) called the broadly-worded bill a "Trojan horse" that would give the President "the power to ban WEB SITES, not just Apps." Ron Paul called the vote "the most dangerous and anti-American act since the passage of the PATRIOT Act!" Others fear that it'll be used to ban alternative media outlets and websites under the ban of "foreign control."

One Christian news commentator warns: "*The poison pill hidden inside the word salad coming from inside the beltway is this: 'Any website desktop application, mobile application, or augmented or immersive technology application (that's words directly from the bill) that is determined by the president to present a significant threat to the national security of the United States' is covered. In other words, it gives the president of the United States power to clamp down on any online application, not just social media site, but any online application, augmented reality, or immersive – in other words VR or AR – technology that they determine is a threat to national security... You can see how this is dangerous. They've just passed a law giving the president the power to censor and control the internet."*

Perhaps Connie Elliott says it best: "*I think that we realized that we're hemorrhaging as a nation. We realized we're hemorrhaging to Chinese psychological manipulation through the use of TikTok and bad situations. Difficult cases make for bad law, or they make for difficult law. They make for a hard situation. I think Congress is in a place where they have to do something, and [it's] best they do the minimum necessary."*

There's Work to be Done!

[Continued from Page 1]



Livingston (102%), Mackinac (114%), Macomb (101%), Mason (104%), Menominee (101%), Missaukee (106%), Monroe (100%), Montmorency (110%), Muskegon (101%), Newaygo (103%), Oakland (101%), Oceana (105%), Ogemaw (106%), Ontonagon (101%), Osceola (101%), Oscoda (110%), Otsego (111%), Presque Isle (107%), Roscommon (110%), Schoolcraft (107%), Shiawassee (102%), St. Clair (102%), Van Buren (104%), Wayne (101%), and Wexford (105%).

As a previous lawsuit shows, in 2020 Michigan had only one county whose voter registrations exceeded 100% of the voting-age population - now it has 53 counties with that discrepancy. Dirty rolls lead to dirty elections. Why would Benson be so opposed to cleaning up Michigan's voter rolls, if there wasn't a nefarious reason for keeping those names on the list?

There are many evidences of election fraud occurring in past elections - and there is very real concern for the 2024 election. It can seem hopeless, discouraging, and overwhelming. **However, there is much we can do!** Here in Michigan, frustrated, everyday Michiganders have risen up to help restore election integrity and accuracy in voter rolls. Groups such as Michigan Fair Elections and Election Integrity Force are doing all they can to ensure a fair election in November. That includes, among other projects, seeking and training volunteers in every Michigan county to analyze a free voter database, tracking potential duplicate and ineligible voters and sharing that information with county and/or township clerks.

It's obvious what is at stake in this upcoming election. We've witnessed the growing lawlessness, the open border, and attacks upon freedom - including the targeting of conservatives, pro-lifers, and even parents expressing concern at school board meet-

ings. **The radical transformation of America by a weaponized federal government in just a little over three years is breathtaking.**

Leftists have proven they aren't interested in election integrity, but in winning elections - by hook or by crook. The DNC far surpasses the RNC in funding and get-out-the-vote efforts. We can't become complacent or duped by positive poll numbers. While conservatives are waking up and getting involved, there's a lot of work to be done - and groups such as American Decency and the ones mentioned above can't do it alone. Concerned citizens are needed, not just on election day, but also now and in the months ahead with projects such as working to restore accurate voting rolls and get-out-the-vote efforts. **If you'd like to volunteer in these vital efforts, contact us at American Decency by calling 231-924-4050 or emailing bjohnson@americandecency.org. Get involved, go to the polls, and go to your knees.**

An Ongoing Battle By Lisa Van Houten



As Bill Johnson writes on page two, this ministry was birthed in the fight against pornography. And while our focus has expanded over the years, our deep concern about the degradation of pornography remains. With the vilest of pornography just a click away, it seems nearly impossible to fight. However, creative state legislatures in red states have found a way to at least make a dent.

In efforts to prevent minors from accessing pornography, Texas has recently joined Louisiana and Utah in passing laws requiring porn sites to verify, via a state-issued ID, that users are at least 18 years of age. Other states are looking to do the same. This has led PornHub, the world's largest provider of

pornography, to block access to their website in both Utah and Texas.

While we rejoice in this victory, the fact that Pornhub would rather disable their site in Texas and Utah completely than cut off access to minors tells you a lot about who is accessing their site and Pornhub's ulterior motives. Not only is Pornhub known to host vile child pornography and videos of sexual abuse, it also targets kids, grooming them to become lifelong porn users. In an undercover investigation, a journalist for Sound Investigations recorded a senior scriptwriter for PornHub talking about his desire to hook children on the most deviant and extreme forms of porn. In speaking about targeting kids, the Pornhub employee stated: *"Let's say you're 12 years old, you're still figuring out your sexuality, ... wouldn't it be helpful to see not a celebration but maybe just a ... normalization of something that you think is what you want?"* The employee went on to say: *"They need to try to push stuff that is ... less accepted... See if you can convert somebody."*

The average age of exposure to pornography for boys in the U.S. is 11 years old and 73% of teens age 13 to 17 have viewed pornography online. Parents, there are many ways to block porn on your family's devices - contact us if we can be of help.

Pornography is warping an entire generation's view of the gift of intimacy God designed for marriage. Any abuse of that gift outside of those bounds will bring physical, emotional, and spiritual harm. While we applaud these state's efforts and urge you to encourage your representatives to enact such laws in your state, this is ultimately a spiritual battle for hearts and minds. ***"Keep your heart with all vigilance ..."*** Prov. 4:23

American Decency Frontline
Vol. XXXVIII, Issue IV
Published monthly by
American Decency Association

Bill Johnson, President and Founder
bjohnson@americandecency.org

P.O. Box 202
Fremont MI 49412-0202
Phone: 231-924-4050

The Stories Xi Tells

By Chris Johnson



Hollywood has always loved Russian bad guys. From James Bond to Rambo, Rocky and Bullwinkle to Indiana Jones, Western ears have been trained to hear an Eastern European accent in a movie and assume they've met the villain.

Even in the time between the end of the Cold War and the beginning of the Ukrainian whatever-this-is, the trope has carried on. We find it in more recent franchises like "The Equalizer," the Marvel Universe, and "Taken." These films have a Russian bad guy, but perhaps the most Russian fear-mongering film of all is the 1984 version of Red Dawn. Red Dawn imagined a Soviet invasion and occupation on United States soil, with high school students looking out their classroom windows to see a sky full of Russian paratroopers. Students from the high school escape to the hills and form a resistance group named after their football team, the Wolverines, making vigilante attacks and rescue missions into their own Colorado home town.

So, when Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022, Americans had no problem swallowing a narrative that Ukraine was just the first step in a newly-revived plot for Russian world domination. The Russians are always the bad guys in our stories.

But, just imagine if Russia had the capability, or the foresight, of blocking those movies from ever being made, or manipulating the studios into rewriting the villains as Germans, or Frenchmen.

That's what China is doing, right now.

And actually, Red Dawn is again the perfect example of this, because in 2008 plans for its remake were announced. It was to be rewritten, set in the early 2000s, but who would the villains be? The Cold War was over, and the USSR collapsed. So, when the modern version was filmed, the invaders

were Chinese. Yet, by the time the movie was actually released in 2012, it wasn't the Chinese flag flying over the enemy occupiers' camp, but that of North Korea. The film had been shot with Chinese villains, and then digitally altered in post-production to change flags and uniforms at the last minute.

The studio didn't even try to hide their reasoning for the change. It was to avoid offending the Chinese government.

Hollywood movies are still a relatively novel form of entertainment for the Chinese. Our cinematic offerings have only been on Chinese silver screens since the death of Mao Zedong, and still only with tight controls. A 1994 agreement allowed ten foreign movies to enter the Chinese market per year. In 1999, that number rose to twenty, and the number now sits at 34 films per year. Even with those limitations, however, China's 1.4 billion potential customers have made that country irresistible to Hollywood promoters.

However, while Chinese audiences love American movies, which movies they are allowed to see is up to the Chinese government. In order for American movie makers to get their slice of China's \$8 billion movie market, Chinese censors must approve the films' content. What they're particularly concerned with is how China is portrayed.

A documentary made by the Epoch Times' Tiffany Meier illustrates how this leads to American movie makers censoring themselves to affirm communist Chinese narrative, protect their reputation, and facilitate their vision for the future. *Hollywood Takeover: China's Control of the Film Industry* follows former Hollywood executive Chris Fenton as he recalls his involvement with promoting American movies in China, particularly Iron Man 3.



One film maker interviewed in the documentary recalls being asked if they could

change the bad guys in his movie to be Japanese. Why? Because the Chinese hate the Japanese. Meier's film quotes a 1942 speech from the founder of the Chinese Communist Party, dictator Mao Zedong:

"There is, in fact, no such thing as art for art's sake... literature and art are subordinate to politics.' He goes on to say, 'Our aim is to ensure that revolutionary literature and art follow the correct path of development and provide better help to other revolutionary work in facilitating the overthrow of our national enemy...'"

That quote gives the historical CCP ideology, but the film also cites a Chinese military document which gives the current Chinese president's beliefs: *"The battle for mind control happens on a smokeless battlefield. It happens inside the domain of ideology... whoever controls this battlefield can win hearts.' The document goes on to quote Xi Jin Ping in one of his secret speeches, and in that secret speech, he said, 'when it comes to combat in the ideology domain, we don't have any room for compromise or retreat. We must achieve total victory.'"*

China is waging a war on a battlefield that the United States largely doesn't even know exists – and movies are just one example. The same tactics are used in social media apps and the business world. Our perception of the world is being shaped from Beijing, our affections manipulated in their interest.

Meanwhile, as author Eric Schwartzel tells it, in 2008, Chinese officials travelled to Los Angeles "to learn how the American film industry had achieved its status as the leader in global culture—and how China could re-create that achievement back home." Fast forward sixteen years, and this headline appears in the New York Times: *"Why China has lost interest in Hollywood Movies."* They can tell their own stories on screen now, and, like many Americans, they're sick of having Hollywood's twisted sense of morality pushed on them.

The irony is that in America's efforts to sell capitalism to the communist country, all that's been achieved is that America has become more communist.

American Workers on the Chopping Block

By Lisa Van Houten



As our readers may know, American Decency Association is located in Fremont, Michigan – a small, family-oriented community. Fremont is also known as the home of Gerber Baby Food. Those of us who grew up in Fremont know Gerber’s history and many knew the Gerber family who invested much into the community. Actually, the former church building which American Decency bought in 2007 to become our headquarters was built by the Gerber family.

Gerber Baby Food began in 1927 by Dan and Dorothy Gerber after Mrs. Gerber started straining peas for their baby. Dan soon began straining fruits and vegetables for babies at their canning company and thus began a business that has fed millions of babies and employed thousands of Fremont residents over the years. The population of Fremont is about 4,500 and the Gerber plant employs over 500 area citizens. In addition, Gerber supports the local farming community that surrounds Fremont, which supplies Gerber with locally grown fruits and vegetables. I’m sharing this history to demonstrate how devastating it would be to our area if the Gerber plant were ever to close – not only to those 500 families, but also the resulting impact on area businesses. I remember years ago when the Gerber family did sell the company and it seemed the entire town waited on pins and needles to see if the new corporate owners would close the plant. Thankfully, that didn’t occur. (Gerber is now owned by Nestle.)

However, such devastation has come to Perry, Iowa, a town of just over 8,000 people - nearly 1,300 of which are employed by Tyson Foods. Well, they were employed; Tyson recently announced the closing of the Tyson plant in Perry. This follows the closing of Tyson plants in Virginia and Arkansas, which put over 1,600

people out of work, as well as future plant closings in Indiana and Missouri. **Yet while Tyson fires thousands of American workers, the company recently announced it hopes to hire an additional 42,000 “asylum seekers” (aka illegal immigrants).** The vast majority of illegal aliens aren’t fleeing persecution; however, they know if they claim asylum it ensures their entry into the US. Their purpose is to take advantage of the open border for economic gains, and the handouts given by the government with our tax dollars, or they’re coming for nefarious reasons.

Tyson Foods proudly states that currently 42,000 of the company’s 120,000 employees are “immigrants.” How many of those entered the U.S. illegally is unclear, but it’s likely a pretty high percentage. Now Garret Dolan, the head of Tyson's social efforts division, told Bloomberg that they “*would like to employ another 42,000 if we could find them.*” If they can find them? Biden has allowed over 8 million illegals into the U.S. in the last three years. Of course, Tyson knows it won’t have any trouble finding them; that’s why the company recently held a job fair in New York, hiring numbers of illegal aliens - which the Biden administration provides with work permits. It’s quite a racket – Biden let’s in millions of illegals; U.S. companies get cheap labor, replacing American workers.

As the U.S. Border Patrol Union tweeted: ***“Tyson Foods has a decades-long record as a magnet for illegal aliens. The fact that they just fired Americans in Iowa so they could hire more illegal aliens is not surprising. It’s what they do.”*** Last year, Tyson was one of several food companies that faced a Labor Department probe over allegations of child migrant labor.

Tyson will pay for temporary housing and give the illegal aliens hired in New York a relocation stipend, sending them to the Tyson plant in Humboldt, Tennessee, and perhaps other locations in the heartland. The illegals will receive \$16.50 an hour with benefits, as well as temporary childcare, transportation, and optional English classes. The cherry on top: Tyson has set aside \$1.5 million to cover the costs of immigration attorneys for their new hires.

The line companies such as Tyson give is that “Americans don’t want those kind of jobs.” I think the thousands of American workers who Tyson just put out of work would disagree with that statement. How long before other companies follow Tyson’s lead and start laying off American workers, knowing they can be replaced with cheap labor from illegal immigrants? Even if Tyson had a hard time finding workers, perhaps if they used the money spent on perks for illegal aliens, including the \$1.5 million for immigration attorneys, to increase wages for American workers they would have an easier time filling those slots.

The inconvenient truth for the Biden administration is that the job gains President Biden often boasts of aren’t going to American workers. Data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics show that between July and August 2023, there was a staggering decrease of 1.2 million U.S.-born workers; yet in the same period, 688,000 foreign-born workers were added to the workforce.

Tyson’s Garret Dolan also stated this about the illegal immigrants Tyson employs: *“They’ve been uprooted and what they want is stability...”* They haven’t been uprooted – they chose to enter our country illegally. In addition, American employees fired by Tyson also want stability; yet Tyson is putting the needs of illegal aliens over the needs of American workers.

As Senator J.D. Vance stated: ***... what this means is the eradication of the American Dream. Every time an American is replaced with an illegal immigrant, it means that an American family loses a good family-supporting wage. It means that American companies are literally replacing our own citizens with people who will work for slave wages. ...That is the decimation of the American middle class via illegal immigration.***

Many people are calling for a boycott of Tyson Foods for betraying American workers. In addition to chicken, Tyson also owns the following brands: Jimmy Dean, Ball Park, Sara Lee, Barber Foods, State Fair, and other lesser-known brands. Please consider joining the protest with your purchasing dollars.

A High School Zombie Apocalypse

By Chris Johnson



Last fall, after ordering a meal at a small local diner, my kids received an unexpected compliment from our waiter. “I’m so impressed that they order by themselves,” he said. “We get a lot of teenagers in here who won’t even do that.”

Occasionally, video clips go viral on social media showing students in a public high school on a grainy, digitally converted camcorder tape, in the pre-cell-phone era. “High School in America in the 2000s. What do you notice?” asks one X user about the video. The replies beneath the video agree: “Smiles;” “normal, happy, unconfused people;” “happy people getting along.” There’s something else that many noticed in the comments however: “No phones;” “No phones and happy kids...;” “Everyone’s happy, having a good time, and not on [their] phones.” One user says, “2010 was the year public school education took a nose dive. Many reasons but the biggest was the iPhone / smart phones. Biggest contributor to the decline of modern public-school education.”

That is the conclusion that researcher and author Jonathan Haidt has come to as well, and is the focus of several of his books, including the most recent: [The Anxious Generation](#). Ben Christensen of the Federalist.com sums it up: “His hypothesis is well-worn: **‘Smartphones and social media caused the teen mental health crisis and an in-person, play-based childhood would be better.’** ...his major contribution is offering context and depth to these oft-discussed issues.”

The review continues: “A young girl on TikTok, in about an hour (assuming an average of three seconds per post), could see a thousand posts that indicate what ‘normal’ girls look like and what ‘popular’ girls do. This amount of content, combined with the tallies of likes and comments that make status

seem so objective, leads Haidt to call social media **‘the most powerful social conformity engine ever created.’** The problem is that ‘normal’ girls are filtered and curated and ‘popular’ girls are often narcissistic and unwell.”

Girls’ and boys’ perceptions of what it means to be a boy or girl in our day are inevitably corrupted if a child is on social media. For every human being they see face-to-face in their daily life, they’ll see a thousand more speaking in odd internet intonations, attempting sometimes dangerous challenges, teaching scientific or religious or historical or philosophical “facts” which might have a tenuous connection to reality.

Later in his review, Christensen points out how Haidt views cell phones’ effect on schools, as X users commented on above: “Haidt is adamant that having smartphones in school is ‘kryptonite for learning’ and harmful to social dynamics. He profiles Mountain Middle School in Durango, Colorado, where they went phone-free in 2012. Immediately, students began talking with each other before class instead of scrolling, and the school’s academic performance soon attained Colorado’s highest performance rating. The principal, Shane Voss, said when he walks into a school without a phone ban, ‘It’s kind of like the zombie apocalypse, and you have all these kids in the hallways not talking to each other.’” So, what are modern parents supposed to do as we raise our kids in the midst of this “zombie apocalypse?”

The article mentions several movements: the “Wait Until 8th” commitment to hold off on smartphone use until 8th grade, and the “Postman Pledge” to swap screen time for reading. A national organization which is headquartered not far from our own offices, “Protect Young Eyes,” encourages parents to wait until high school before allowing social media, and then to monitor it closely.

Parents can’t afford to leave their responsibilities at the lock screen. We ought to think through tech issues with our kids like, what does sharing a selfie actually communicate? What kind of information can strangers find out about us through a profile page? Should we care what internet people think of us?

Can we trust the information that others share? Does social media usage affect our spiritual lives? These are just a few questions that arise with social media usage at any age.

Thankfully, technological advancement also brings tools for parents wanting to keep their kids safe from manipulation and perversion. One of the most powerful ways parents can protect their kids from perverted content and promote responsible internet usage is at the wireless router level. Routers released within the last several years have controls built into them which can block certain keywords, sites, and content and limit usage for certain devices.

“It’s a hub for monitoring your kids online and your family’s first line of defense against digital dangers. Gryphon provides total protection against screen time addiction, adult websites, inappropriate content, hackers, & personal privacy threats.”

As Gryphon says for itself, the router is only the first line of defense. That only filters the internet coming from that router. If a phone or device with a data connection turns off the Wi-Fi or connects to another network or has a 5G or LTE connection, it will be unprotected.

That’s where we’ve found accountability apps come in. There are lots of options with different capabilities out there, but accountability apps are great because the user always knows that what they’re doing is done in the light. Google’s Family Link is free and extremely powerful. It allows you to block the browser, the search bar, YouTube, and any other undesirable app, but it’s Google, which means they’re storing usage data and doing who knows what with it.

If all of this sounds like a lot to keep track of, that’s because it is. But it’s the price of admission for a kid with a digital device with internet access. If parents can see what the broader culture is doing to kids and are adamant that their kids will not turn into THAT, we’re going to need to put in some extra work.

Praise Is Always Appropriate and Beautiful

By Steve Huston



A quick glance through this newsletter clearly shows the disastrous results of, and the hideous nature of, sin. Even as I sat down to write this piece on the beauty of praise, Frank Gaffney “reminded me” of our Congress’ likelihood of passing “*the voluminous appropriations legislation*” which “*involves continued funding for the World Health Organization.*” Why does this matter? “*Should the House concur, the stage will be set for the adoption in just sixty-six days of what amount to two treaties that will give the WHO’s Director-General the power to dictate our public health policy, crushing national sovereignty and medical freedom.*” Even more disturbing is the fact that most of the members of Congress, and an even larger number of their constituents, are completely unaware of this threat.

I’m not ignorant of the numerous troubles within our nation or the international powder kegs aimed at us that could have devastating impacts upon our personal lives. Neither am I unaware that we each have family, health, financial, emotional, and other relational issues that weigh heavily upon us. There are many believers who feel the disappointment and eternal horror of some prodigal (child, sibling, parent, etc.) which is not yet to be found in the ark of safety, Jesus Christ.

No, we’re not unaware of the many troubles, particularly our personal woes. **What too many seem to be unaware (or forgetful) of, during those trying times, is that God is still good; He is always worthy of praise in the midst of affliction, tribulation, trials, and even in death. Praise is always appropriate and beautiful.** The psalmist continually cries, “Praise ye the LORD!” In the 147th psalm he says praise is good, pleasant, and beautiful, then speaks at length of the many reasons God is worthy of such praise. Herein he teaches us, in

small measure, the goodness and the greatness of God.

May we never forget that praising God is both a privilege and a proof, a testimony to others of the delightful enjoyments that belong to God’s peculiar people – affirming that He is our treasure in good times and bad.

In Psalm 33 we’re exhorted to “Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous!” stating it’s beautiful; it makes sense for the upright to do so. Here the psalmist points to God’s worthiness of praise in His righteousness, creation, sovereignty, judgment, faithfulness, and mercy.

We are exhorted to perpetual praise for our God is worthy; there is none other like Him. In good times or bad David says he will fix his heart to praise God. Why do we find it so difficult to praise in the midst of our storm?

Do we practice meditating on the majesty, power, and goodness of our God?

David, presumably from his youth, had made this his practice. It’s no wonder that the Psalms are replete with constant reminders of God’s awesome goodness, greatness, holiness, love, justice, mercy, etc. Those whose minds are stayed on Him, whose hearts fear Him, and whose mouths are full of His praise are invited to call out to God and rest in His mercy. If it isn’t your daily practice, I would urge you to spend some time in the quiet of your waking hours to meditate on our saving God – remembering His works, His character, and praising Him. With Bible in hand and eye toward Heaven, consider your Creator, Redeemer, Saviour, and Refuge. With the Spirit’s help, day by day, praise will become natural and more constant.

Where is your focus when enemies arise or you find yourself in the midst of a storm? Twelve men went to spy on Canaan; will you be like the ten who saw giant troubles or will you be like Joshua and Caleb who saw a giant God. David did not see the size of Goliath; he saw the hugeness of his God. Job’s wife would have him curse God for her husband’s many troubles.

Job rightly put things in perspective: should we accept good at God’s hand but not evil? Will we only praise God during good times and not during times of duress? In the midst of afflictions, attacks, and sufferings, David would turn his mind toward his God and set his lips to praise. It’s then that those troubles became small as he focused on the grandeur of his God.

While God is the object and recipient of our praise, we are certainly benefactors when we obediently praise Him. In Psalm 33, the call to rejoice is readily seen in verse one. This Hebrew word means to shout aloud for joy. It’s that “Old Faithful” geyser-like praise that can’t be hidden. After proclaiming God’s worthiness of praise, verse twenty-one again uses the word “rejoice,” but with a different meaning, coming from a different Hebrew word. This “rejoice,” in context, refers to a brightened heart that has been made cheerful because it has hoped in God’s mercy (v. 18) to be saved from death and kept alive in famine (v. 19). Such a one is waiting on the Lord as their help and shield (v. 20). His heart can rest joyfully in the Lord “because we have trusted in his holy name.” (v. 21). In verse 22 the psalmist closes with a prayer which lays before us God’s sovereign ability and man’s responsibility to place his hope – his trust – in God: “Let thy mercy, O LORD, be upon us, according as we hope in thee.”

In such days as lie before us, may our hearts be at peace because we’ve hoped in God, praising Him regardless our circumstance, because He is good and holy. **Don’t forget, praise is always appropriate and beautiful.**

O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; to see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary. Because thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee. Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.

~ Psalm 63:1-4